

**I. Amendments to the Claims**

Please amend the claims as follows with the following version of the claims in accordance with revised 37 CFR § 1.121.

1. (Amended) A method for managing resources within a distributed data processing system, the method comprising the steps of:

~~receiving a lease request for a resource;~~

5 receiving, at a resource manager, a lease request from a resource requester to lease a requested resource for a requested lease period at a particular level of service;

in response to receiving the lease request, securing leases on a logical circuit of resources through the distributed data processing system, wherein:

10 obtaining a data path that represents the logical circuit of resources through the distributed data processing system between the resource requester and the requested resource, wherein the data path is  
15 determined by a dynamic discovery process of devices within the distributed data processing system;

20 sending, by the resource manager, multiple lease requests for the requested lease period to respective multiple resource managers for multiple requested resources along the data path, wherein use of the requested resource requires use of the multiple requested resources; and

25 receiving, at the resource manager, lease grants for the multiple requested resources from the respective multiple resource managers; and

in response to securing leases on the a-logical circuit of resources, sending a lease grant for the requested resource from the resource manager to the resource requester.

30 2. (Canceled).

3. (Canceled).

4. (Canceled).

5 5. (Canceled).

6. (Canceled).

7. (Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising:  
10 detecting an oversubscribed condition on the requested  
resource; and  
in response to the detected oversubscribed condition,  
reducing a lease period for the ~~granted~~-lease grant.

15 8. (Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising:  
detecting an error condition; and  
in response to the detected error condition, reducing a  
lease period for the lease grant.

9. (Amended) An apparatus for managing resources within a distributed data processing system, the apparatus comprising:

~~first receiving means for receiving a lease request for a resource;~~

5 first receiving means for receiving, at a resource manager, a lease request from a resource requester to lease a requested resource for a requested lease period at a particular level of service;

10 securing means for securing, in response to receiving the lease request, leases on a logical circuit of resources through the distributed data processing system, wherein:

15 obtaining means for obtaining a data path that represents the logical circuit of resources through the distributed data processing system between the resource requester and the requested resource, wherein the data path is determined by a dynamic discovery process of devices within the distributed data processing system;

20 first sending means for sending, by the resource manager, multiple lease requests for the requested lease period to respective multiple resource managers for multiple requested resources along the data path, wherein use of the requested resource requires use of the multiple requested resources; and

25 second receiving means for receiving, at the resource manager, lease grants for the multiple requested resources from the respective multiple resource managers; and

30 second sending means for sending, in response to securing leases on the a-logical circuit of resources, a lease grant for the requested resource from the resource manager to the resource requester.

10. (Canceled).

11. (Canceled).

5

12. (Canceled).

13. (Canceled).

10 14. (Canceled).

15. (Amended)        The apparatus of claim 9 further comprising:  
second detecting means for detecting an oversubscribed  
condition on the requested resource; and

15        second reducing means for reducing a lease period for the  
~~granted-lease grant in response to the detected oversubscribed~~  
condition.

16. (Amended)        The apparatus of claim 9 further comprising:  
20        third detecting means for detecting an error condition; and  
third reducing means for reducing a lease period for the  
lease grant in response to the detected error condition.

17. (Amended) A computer program product on a computer readable medium for use in a data processing system for managing resources within the distributed data processing system, the computer program product comprising:

5 ~~first instructions for receiving a lease request for a resource;~~

10 first instructions for receiving, at a resource manager, a lease request from a resource requester to lease a requested resource for a requested lease period at a particular level of service;

instructions for securing, in response to receiving the lease request, leases on a logical circuit of resources through the distributed data processing system, wherein:

15 instructions for obtaining a data path that represents the logical circuit of resources through the distributed data processing system between the resource requester and the requested resource, wherein the data path is determined by a dynamic discovery process of devices within the distributed data processing system;

20 first instructions for sending, by the resource manager, multiple lease requests for the requested lease period to respective multiple resource managers for multiple requested resources along the data path, wherein use of the requested resource requires use of the multiple requested resources; and

25 second instructions for receiving, at the resource manager, lease grants for the multiple requested resources from the respective multiple resource managers; and

second first instructions for sending, in response to securing leases on the a-logical circuit of resources, a lease grant for the requested resource from the resource manager to the resource requester.

18. (Canceled).

19. (Canceled).

20. (Canceled).

21. (Canceled).

22. (Canceled).

23. (Amended) The computer program product of claim 17 further comprising:

second instructions for detecting an oversubscribed condition on the requested resource; and

second instructions for reducing a lease period for the granted-lease grant in response to the detected oversubscribed condition.

24. (Amended) The computer program product of claim 17 further comprising:

third instructions for detecting an error condition; and

third instructions for reducing a lease period for the lease grant in response to the detected error condition.

25. (Amended) A network comprising:

~~first receiving means for receiving a lease request for a resource;~~

first receiving means for receiving, at a resource manager,  
5 a lease request from a resource requester to lease a requested  
resource for a requested lease period at a particular level of  
service;

securing means for securing, in response to receiving the  
lease request, leases on a logical circuit of resources through  
10 ~~the distributed data processing system network, wherein:~~

obtaining means for obtaining a data path that  
represents the logical circuit of resources through the  
network between the resource requester and the  
requested resource, wherein the data path is determined  
15 by a dynamic discovery process of devices within the  
network;

first sending means for sending, by the resource  
manager, multiple lease requests for the requested  
lease period to respective multiple resource managers  
20 for multiple requested resources along the data path,  
wherein use of the requested resource requires use of  
the multiple requested resources; and

second receiving means for receiving, at the  
resource manager, lease grants for the multiple  
25 requested resources from the respective multiple  
resource managers; and

second sending means for sending, in response to securing  
leases on the a logical circuit of resources, a lease grant for  
the requested resource from the resource manager to the resource  
30 requester.



26. (Canceled).

27. (Canceled).

5 28. (Canceled).

29. (Canceled).

30. (Canceled).

10

31. (Amended) The network of claim 25 further comprising:  
second detecting means for detecting an oversubscribed  
condition on the requested resource; and

15 second reducing means for reducing a lease period for the  
~~granted-lease grant in response to the detected oversubscribed~~  
condition.

32. (Amended) The network of claim 25 further comprising:  
third detecting means for detecting an error condition; and

20 third reducing means for reducing a lease period for the  
lease grant in response to the detected error condition.